

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A disc reproducing apparatus having a screen display control unit  
controlling display of a prepared screen,  
said screen display control unit including:  
mode setting means for setting, in accordance with externally provided  
5 instruction information, one of a screen display mode and a screen erasure mode; and  
control means for permitting output of a display signal to said prepared screen  
when said screen display mode is set by said mode setting means and inhibiting output of  
the display signal to said screen when said screen erasure mode is set by said mode  
setting means, in a case where audio information is reproduced from a disc.

10

2. The disc reproducing apparatus having the screen display control unit  
according to claim 1, further having a key input unit that is externally operated, wherein  
said screen display control unit further includes:  
key determination means for determining, when said screen erasure mode is set  
5 and said key input unit is externally operated, type of an operated key of said key input  
unit; and  
key information display means for displaying on said screen information  
according to the type of the key determined by said key determination means.

3. The disc reproducing apparatus having the screen display control unit  
according to claim 2, wherein  
reproduction of said audio information is discontinued according to the type of  
the key determined by said key determination means.

4. The disc reproducing apparatus having the screen display control unit  
according to claim 3, wherein

the discontinued reproduction of said audio information is resumed.

5. The disc reproducing apparatus having the screen display control unit according to claim 4, wherein

said instruction information is output in response to operation of a predetermined key of said key input unit.

6. The disc reproducing apparatus having the screen display control unit according to claim 5, wherein

said disc is a disc having only said audio information to be reproduced or a disc having said audio information and image information to be reproduced.

7. The disc reproducing apparatus having the screen display control unit according to claim 4, further having means for displaying a data item operated for designating one of said screen display mode and said screen erasure mode.

8. The disc reproducing apparatus having the screen display control unit according to claim 7, wherein

said disc is a disc having only said audio information to be reproduced or a disc having said audio information and image information to be reproduced.

9. The disc reproducing apparatus having the screen display control unit according to claim 1, further having a key input unit that is externally operated, wherein

said instruction information is output in response to operation of a predetermined key of said key input unit.

10. The disc reproducing apparatus having the screen display control unit according to claim 1, further having means for displaying a data item operated for

designating one of said screen display mode and said screen erasure mode.

11. The disc reproducing apparatus having the screen display control unit according to claim 1, wherein

said disc is a disc having only said audio information to be reproduced or a disc having said audio information and image information to be reproduced.

12. A method of controlling display of a prepared screen while reproduction of a disc is done, comprising the steps of:

mode-setting for setting one of a screen display mode and a screen erasure mode in accordance with externally provided instruction information; and

5 control step for permitting output of a display signal to said prepared screen when said screen display mode is set in said mode-setting step and inhibiting output of the display signal to said screen when said screen erasure mode is set in said mode-setting step, in a case where audio information is reproduced from said disc.